

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

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MORNING PAPERS : SATURDAY, 25TH OCTOBER, 1947

EVENING PAPERS : SATURDAY, 25TH OCTOBER, 1947

RECORD TOTAL FOR AUGUST

The record number of 2,295,100 wage and salary earners in civil employment (exclusive of wage earners in rural industry and females engaged in private domestic service), was reached in August, 1947, says the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson). Of this total 1,728,100 were working for private employers, while 567,000 were employed by various Governmental Authorities. State and Semi-Governmental Authorities employed the greater number of Government workers, namely 349,000, comprising 298,500 males and 50,500 females, and including 132,000 railway workers. Commonwealth Government employees numbered 159,200 of whom 57,700 were postal employees. Practically all the remaining 58,800 persons were employed by local government authorities.

RISE OF 9,000 DURING AUGUST

All states except Western Australia and Tasmania shared in the rise of 9,000 during August. In Western Australia the level was unaltered; in Tasmania there was a fall of 100. Male employment levels rose in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania, remained stationary in South Australia, and fell by 200 in Western Australia. Female employment dropped by 100 in Victoria and 300 in Tasmania but rose in all other States. Except for a rise of 100 in the females employed in the Australian Capital Territory, the territories' (A.C.T. and N.T.) figures remained unchanged.

INCREASES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

Of the 1,668,000 males in employment, 603,600 were working in factories, an increase of 5,000 on July figures. Out of a total of 627,100, 202,200 females were working in factories, or 200 more than in July. Building and Construction employed 158,500 males, compared with 158,000 for July. 117,300 males and 104,400 females were engaged in Retail Trade, representing increases of 300 and 200 respectively. In Rail and Air Transport operations 94,100 males and 7,400 females were employed, compared with 93,800 and 7,300, respectively, in July. The only industrial groups for which decreases were recorded were Shipping, and Stevedoring and Public Authority Activity (other than Transport, Communication, Building, etc.), while there was a slight fall off in male employment in Mining, and the number of females employed in Banking and Insurance was also slightly below the July level.

FACTORY EMPLOYMENT - 805,800 PERSONS

Of the 805,800 factory employees, 278,700 males and 26,300 females, a total of 305,000, were engaged in the fabrication or treatment of metals, machinery, vehicles, etc., while clothing workers numbered 104,900 (27,700 males and 77,200 females) and workers in the food, drink, and tobacco industry were 107,800 (80,400 males and 27,400 females). Most manufacturing industries shared in the general rise in employment. The only reduction occurred in textile and knitted goods factories, where employment fell from 60,500 in July to 60,300 in August.

ROLAND WILSON

COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

24TH OCTOBER, 1947